

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2307

Introduced by Assembly Member Donnelly

February 21, 2014

An act to amend Section 52372.5 of the Education Code, relating to career technical education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2307, as introduced, Donnelly. Career technical education: linked learning programs.

Existing law establishes the Linked Learning Pilot Program for the purpose of implementing districtwide linked learning programs, and defines linked learning program for purposes of those provisions.

This bill would make nonsubstantive changes, including deleting obsolete reporting requirements related to linked learning programs.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 52372.5 of the Education Code is
2 amended to read:
3 52372.5. ~~(a)~~ For purposes of this section, article, a “linked
4 learning program” is a program that is all of the following:
5 (1)
6 (a) A multiyear, comprehensive high school program of
7 integrated academic and technical study that is organized around
8 a broad theme, interest area, or industry sector, including, but not

1 necessarily limited to, the industry sectors identified in the model
2 standards adopted by the state board pursuant to Section 51226.

3 ~~(2)~~

4 (b) A program that ensures that all pupils have curriculum
5 choices that will prepare them for career entry and a full range of
6 postsecondary options, including two- and four-year college,
7 apprenticeship, and formal employment training.

8 ~~(3)~~

9 (c) A program that is comprised, at a minimum, of the following
10 components:

11 ~~(A)~~

12 (1) An integrated core curriculum that meets the eligibility
13 requirements for admission to the University of California and the
14 California State University and is delivered through project-based
15 learning and other engaging instructional strategies that
16 intentionally bring real-world context and relevance to the
17 curriculum where broad themes, interest areas, and career technical
18 education are emphasized.

19 ~~(B)~~

20 (2) An integrated technical core of a sequence of at least four
21 related courses, that may reflect career technical education
22 standards-based courses, that provide pupils with career skills, that
23 are aligned to and underscore academic principles, and to the extent
24 possible fulfill the academic core requirements listed in
25 ~~subparagraph (A)~~ *paragraph (1)*.

26 ~~(C)~~

27 (3) A series of work-based learning opportunities that begin
28 with mentoring and job shadowing and evolve into intensive
29 internships, school-based enterprises, or virtual apprenticeships.

30 ~~(D)~~

31 (4) Support services, including supplemental instruction in
32 reading and mathematics, that help pupils master the advanced
33 academic and technical content that is necessary for success in
34 college and career.

35 ~~(b) The Superintendent, in conjunction with the Office of the~~
36 ~~Secretary for Education, the California Community Colleges, the~~
37 ~~University of California, the California State University, the~~
38 ~~Employment Development Department, both houses of the~~
39 ~~California Legislature, teachers, chamber organizations, industry~~
40 ~~representatives, research centers, parents, school administrators,~~

1 representatives of regional occupational centers and programs,
2 community-based organizations, labor organizations, and others
3 deemed appropriate by the Superintendent, shall develop a report
4 that explores the feasibility of establishing and expanding
5 additional linked learning programs in California, including the
6 costs and merits associated with expansion of these programs.
7 Linked learning programs created for high schools may include,
8 but are not limited to, California partnership academies, regional
9 occupational centers and programs, charter schools, academies,
10 small learning communities, and other career-themed small schools.

11 (e) The report described in subdivision (b) shall do all of the
12 following:

13 (1) Identify regulations, policies, and practices that need to be
14 added, deleted, or amended in order to promote the development
15 and expansion of linked learning programs.

16 (2) Set forth a reasonable timeline for the development and
17 expansion of linked learning programs.

18 (3) Include at least all of the following components:

19 (A) Assessment of the current capacity of the department for
20 the purpose of maximizing the development of these programs.

21 (B) Identifying the possible roles and responsibilities of other
22 departments or agencies to assist in developing or expanding linked
23 learning programs.

24 (C) An assessment of the appropriateness of school districts
25 fulfilling the requirements set forth in subdivisions (a) and (b) of
26 Section 51228 by developing industry-focused linked learning
27 programs, including those described in this section.

28 (D) Methods for developing and sharing models of integrated
29 curriculum and instruction.

30 (E) Strategies for increasing the course options and instructional
31 time for pupils in high school.

32 (F) Plans for increasing opportunities for high-quality learning
33 based on real-world applications in industry and careers.

34 (G) Methods for improving alignment of curriculum between
35 middle schools and high schools with career instruction,
36 exploration, and counseling for middle school pupils.

37 (H) Methods for improving coordination and articulation
38 between high schools and postsecondary institutions, including,
39 but not limited to, California Community Colleges, the California
40 State University, and the University of California.

1 (I) Recommendations for increasing the supply of teachers who
2 can teach effectively in a linked learning setting that aims to
3 prepare pupils for a full range of postsecondary options. Necessary
4 specialized skills include, but are not limited to, the abilities to
5 design interdisciplinary projects and use project-based learning as
6 an instructional strategy, work with other teachers in a
7 team-teaching arrangement, develop curriculum that effectively
8 integrates academic and technical content, design and utilize
9 high-quality work-based learning to reinforce lessons in both
10 academic and technical courses, and develop authentic pupil
11 assessments.

12 (J) Recommendations for increasing the supply of schoolsite
13 and district administrators who can effectively create and manage
14 schools that are implementing one or more industry-focused linked
15 learning programs. Necessary specialized skills include, but are
16 not limited to, the abilities to develop and sustain partnerships with
17 industry partners, recruit and retain uniquely qualified teachers,
18 guide development of integrated curriculum, understand needs for
19 and provide teacher professional development, guide development
20 of comprehensive guidance systems that integrate college advising
21 and career counseling, guide development of a coordinated and
22 sequenced work-based learning component, and utilize data to
23 assess pupil readiness for college and career.

24 (K) Recommendations for supporting regional coalitions in
25 planning and developing programs.

26 (L) Evaluation of current linked learning programs, including
27 partnership academies, regional occupational centers or programs
28 and postsecondary linked learning programs, including middle
29 colleges and early college models.

30 (M) Recommendations for increasing and improving in-school
31 support services.

32 (N) Recommendations for incorporating new measures into the
33 state's accountability system to better assess the results of these
34 linked learning programs.

35 (O) Assessment of the budgetary implications of offering all
36 pupils access to these linked learning programs.

37 (d) For purposes of completing the report described in
38 subdivision (b), the Superintendent is authorized to use existing
39 state resources and federal funds. If state or federal funds are not
40 available or sufficient, the Superintendent may apply for and accept

1 ~~grants and receive donations, and other financial support from~~
2 ~~public or private sources for purposes of this section.~~

3 ~~(e) In developing the report, the Superintendent may accept~~
4 ~~support including, but not necessarily limited to, financial and~~
5 ~~technical support, from high school reform advocates, teachers,~~
6 ~~chamber organizations, industry representatives, research centers,~~
7 ~~parents, and pupils.~~

8 ~~(f) The Superintendent shall report to the Legislature as to the~~
9 ~~status of completing the report and any preliminary~~
10 ~~recommendations no later than July 1, 2009.~~

11 ~~(g) The Superintendent shall submit a final report with~~
12 ~~recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor no later than~~
13 ~~December 1, 2009.~~